

## 04.20.07: First 100 Days in Office

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR JOHN GARAMENDI MARKS 100th DAY IN OFFICE; ACCOMPLISHMENTS SHOW GREAT PROGRESS IN FULFILLING HIS PROMISES TO CALIFORNIANS

SACRAMENTO - Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi released the following statement on Friday:

"100 days ago, I took office as your Lieutenant Governor because the people of California embraced my commitment to transform the Lieutenant Governor's office into a forceful advocate for every Californian.

"I promised I would restore the luster to this office; be a champion of our environment; be relentless in the battle to improve our kids' education; unyielding in the fight for healthcare for all; and zealous in promoting the creation of new, high wage jobs and protecting the rights of working families.

"I promised to be creative in developing solutions to our state's problems and in developing common sense policies that make life better for all Californians.

"We are well on the way to keeping our commitments to you.

"In just 100 short days we have reestablished a positive and productive relationship between the Governor and Lieutenant Governor. The Governor and I have met regularly to discuss issues and policies of importance to our state and are working together on a number of projects.

"I have actively engaged in my roles as a Regent of the University of California and as a Trustee of the State University - demanding transparency on executive compensation, opposing increases in student fees and tuition and demanding a fair contract for California State University Faculty. <http://www.ltg.ca.gov/news/pressreleases/040307-2.asp>

"To best understand the role of our education system in preparing our future workforce and meeting the needs of California communities, I have commenced a program of "Listening Tour" town hall meetings on the campuses of all 23 State Universities, and have already visited the campuses in Fresno, Bakersfield, San Bernardino and Hayward. These town hall meetings bring together leading academic, business, labor and community leaders to discuss workforce development and community needs; while also examining the strengths and weaknesses of our education system at all levels in meeting the needs of our students and communities.

[http://www.kget.com/news/local/story.aspx?content\\_id=95781869-e64e-4649-ab62-faf0beaba86a](http://www.kget.com/news/local/story.aspx?content_id=95781869-e64e-4649-ab62-faf0beaba86a)

"I am working with the Governor to revitalize the California Commission on Economic Development, which the Lieutenant Governor chairs, to transform this important commission into a powerhouse for generating ideas that revitalize and enhance our economy, and to create opportunities for future growth, research, development and new markets.

"On the healthcare front I have been meeting with leading policy makers, healthcare leaders, business and labor to expand on the work and ideas developed in the landmark report "Priced Out," which I released in 2005 when I was Insurance Commissioner, working towards the ultimate goal of a universal healthcare system that covers everyone and puts people before profits. I have participated in forums, on panels and given speeches to many organizations, from business to labor to healthcare groups, talking about the urgent need to reform our healthcare system before any more of us are priced out of the system.

"On the environmental front I have aggressively used my positions as chair of the State Lands Commission and as a member of the Ocean Protection Council to enact policies that will protect and preserve the majestic beauty and resources that make California the envy of the world.

"I led the State Lands Commission to reject the proposed Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminal off the Oxnard/Malibu coast - because of the plan's deficiencies in protecting the environmental health of our communities, the ocean and our shoreline; and because of the potential for this project to increase the creation of greenhouse gases that contribute to global climate change.

"On the Ocean Protection Council I have championed a plan to greatly decrease pollution of our beaches, especially from plastic refuse, which not only sullies our beaches, but has dangerous effects on marine life. <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-trash9feb09,1,6714533.story?coll=la-headlines-california>

"I take seriously my responsibility to be outspoken on perhaps the most critical issue that confronts the future of our state, our nation and our world: global climate change. I have given speeches across California and the nation on the need for us to make a serious commitment to this battle while we still have the opportunity to use conservation and reduce our use of carbon-based fuels to reverse or slow the effects of greenhouse gases on our environment. In fact, last month, I was honored to deliver a keynote address at the Center for American Progress in Washington DC, entitled: Climate Change & Energy Policy: What California Must Do.

<http://www.ltg.ca.gov/news/speeches/031407.asp>

"100 days is a short time in office, but I believe we have made solid progress in keeping my commitments to the people of our great state.

"We have been able to do so much in such a short time because I have assembled an experienced staff of people committed to my goal of making this office your advocate - from environmental policy experts to consumer advocates to healthcare professionals.

"We have a long way to go, but rest assured - your Lieutenant Governor's office is working hard every day to make life better for you.

"Please visit my website at [www.ltg.ca.gov](http://www.ltg.ca.gov) to read more about the Lieutenant Governor's office and our activities, or to contact me.

"Thank you for this wonderful opportunity to serve you and our great state."

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